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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/411,642	Applicant(s) GENE M. NITSCHKE
	Examiner CUONG T. THAI	Group Art Unit 2173

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE __THREE__ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on __MARCH/14/2002 REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION.__

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) __1-21__ is/are pending in the application.

    Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s)_____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) __1-21__ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s)_____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s)_____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on_____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on_____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 11 9(a)-(d).

    ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

    ☐ received.

    ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)_____ .

    ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)).

    *Certified copies not received:_____ .

Attachment(s)

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). __7__   ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892   ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948   ☐ Other_____

Office Action Summary

FINAL ACTION

1.   Statutory basis for the following rejection under 35 U.S.C.
103 have been stated as paragraphs 5-8 of the previous Office
Action (see Paper # 6, mailed on 26 February 2002.).

2.   Claims 1-3, 6, 9-14, 16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.
103(a) as being unpatentable over Yair (USPN: 5,787,194) in view
of Goldberg (USPN: 6,341,183).

As per claims 1(system), 10(storage-medium), and 12(method);
Yair teaches a system that assembles a dedicated user interface
that allows an input segmented image to be manipulated
comprising:

a segmentation classification association circuit that
associates a segmentation classifier and at least one segment of
the input segmented image is taught by Yair as the technique of
provides image processing apparatus for segmenting an input image
into image portions each containing a single character, the
apparatus comprising identification logic for identifying
connected components in the input image; classification logic for

determining into which of a number of predefined classes a
connected component falls (see column 2, lines 8-14);

Yair, however, does not disclose the limitation of an image
processing tool association circuit that determines at least one
image processing tool corresponding to the segmentation
classifier;

Goldberg discloses the limitation of an image processing
tool association circuit that determines at least one image
processing tool as the technique of an event-driven graphical
user interface (GUI)-based image acquisition interface for the
interactive data language programming environment developed by
Research Systems, Inc. (See column 2, lines 21-25) which include
Analysis Toobbox. Advantageously, a toolbox of various analytical
tools can be incorporated into the GUI-based image acquisition
interface (see column 8, lines 25-28);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in
the art at the time the invention was made to include the
limitation of an image processing tool association circuit that
determines at least one image processing tool by Goldberg into
that of Yair's segment classifier invention. By doing so, the
system would enhance by providing real-time data analysis support
for images acquired during the alignment of image acquisition
analysis.

As per claims 2(system), 11(storage-medium), and 13(method);
Yair discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Yair,
however, does not disclose the limitation of a user interface
assembly circuit that assemble at least one selectable interface
widget into at least one user interface based on the at least one
image processing tool corresponding to the segmentation
classifier;

Goldberg discloses the limitation of a user interface
assembly circuit that assemble at least one selectable interface
widget into at least one user interface based on the at least one
image processing tool as the technique of an event-driven
graphical user interface (GUI)-based image acquisition interface
for the interactive data language programming environment
developed by Research Systems, Inc. (See column 2, lines 21-25)
which include Analysis Toobbox. Advantageously, a toolbox of
various analytical tools can be incorporated into the GUI-based
image acquisition interface (see column 8, lines 25-28) wherein
the GUI interface program of the presentation provides the
following features: pulldown menu, commonly used hardware binning
options 14 are available, the available detector speeds 16 are
available from a pulldown menu (see column 4, lines 22-31) and in
order to switch quickly from one set of parameters to another,
the user pushes only one button 28 (see column 4, lines 50-52);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of a user interface assembly circuit that assemble at least one selectable interface widget into at least one user interface based on the at least one image processing tool by Goldberg into that of Yair's segment classifier invention. By doing so, the system would enhance by providing better processing tools in GUI-based interface to end users.

As per claims 3(system) and 14(method); Yair discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Yair, however, does not disclose the limitation of the system modifies the at least one segment based on a selection of the at least one image processing tool associated with the at least one user interface;

Goldberg discloses the limitation of the system modifies the at least one segment based on a selection of the at least one image processing tool associated with the at least one user interface as the technique of Four tools are described herein. They are the Fourier transform Aligment Tool, the Contrast Tool, the Wavefront Tool, and the Zernike Polynomial Tool. It is not difficult to modify the existing tools or add additional tools to expand the capabilities of the toolbox (see column 8, lines 59-63);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in
the art at the time the invention was made to include the
limitation of modifying the at least one segment based on a
selection of the at least one image processing tool associated
with the at least one user interface by Goldberg into that of
Yair's segment classifier invention. By doing so, the system
would enhance by providing more varieties and selectable
processing tools in GUI-based interface to end user wherein the
user has capable of selecting tool based on his/her own desired
manner.

As per claims 9(system) and 21(method); Yair discloses the
invention substantially as claimed. Yair, however, does not
disclose the limitation of wherein the dedicated user interface
is a graphical user interface comprising <u>at least one</u> of drop-
down menu, a pull-down menu, a radio button, a tab button, a
segment display area or a slide bar;

Goldberg discloses the limitation of wherein the dedicated
user interface is a graphical user interface comprising at least
one of drop-down menu, a pull-down menu, a radio button, a tab
button, a segment display area or a slide bar as the technique of
the GUI interface program of the present invention provides the
following features: using a pulldown menu, commonly used hardware
binning options 14 are available (see column 4, lines 22-29),

▓modes▓ 26 selected by buttons 28(see column 4, lines 45-46),

large ▓GO▓ and ▓STOP▓ buttons (see column 5, line 11), the image

size can be scaed for display from 1/4 th size to 8 times large

in multiples of 1/4 size using a scroll-bar, or slide 112 (see

column 5, lines 63-65), and using the pull-down menu 508 at the

top of the toolbox window, the direction of the data stripe used

to access contrast can be set to vertical or horizontal (see

column 9, lines 62-64);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in

the art at the time the invention was made to include the

limitation of wherein the dedicated user interface is a graphical

user interface comprising at least one of drop-down menu, a pull-

down menu, a radio button, a tab button, a segment display area

or a slide bar by Goldberg into that of Yair's segment classifier

invention. By doing so, the system would enhance by providing

more selectable tools in GUI-based interface to end user wherein

the user has capable of selecting tool based on his/her own

desired manner.

As per claims 6(system) and 16(method), the limitation of

segmentation selection circuit that selects the at least one

segment is taught by Yair as the technique of identifying

connected components in the input image; classifying the

connected components by determining into which of a number of

predefined classes a connected components falls, at least one of

said classes indicating that the connected component is most

likely to be single character; and iteratively merging and

slitting the connected components and reclassifying the resulting

slit and/or merged connected components until an image

segmentation is achieved which meets a predefined criterion (see

column 3, lines 42-50). These claims are therefore rejected for

the reason as set forth aboved.

3.   Claims 4-5, 15 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Yair (USPN: 5,787,194) in view of

Goldberg (USPN: 6,341,183) and further in view of Marimont et al.

(USPN: 5,710,877) hereinafter Marimont.

     As per claims 4(system) and 15(method), Yair-Goldberg

disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Yair-Goldberg,

however, do not disclose the limitation of a segmentation mapping

circuit that determines the at least one segment based on a

position of a user input device in the input segmented image;

     Marimont discloses the limitation of a segmentation mapping

circuit that determines the at least one segment based on a

position of a user input device in the input segmented image as

the technique of the discovery of a data structure representation

of an image called an image structure map (ISM) that accurately

and explicitly represents the geometric and topological
properties of an image and allows for efficient and accurate
spatial indexing of regions of an image (see column 3, lines 9-
14). Marimont's image structure map (ISM) invention further
discloses ▓input signal circuitry▓ is circuitry for providing
input signals to the processor from an input signal source. The
input signal source may be directed by a human user or by an
automatic operation under control of a processor. ▓User input
circuitry▓ is circuitry for providing signals based on action of
a user. User input circuitry can receive signals from one or more
▓user input devices▓ that provide signals based on actions of a
user, such as a keyboard, a mouse, or stylus device (see column
9, lines 53-61)..For example, a signal from a user input device
indicates a position of an image if the signal includes data from
which the position can be uniquely identified (see column 10,
lines 4-6);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in
the art at the time the invention was made to include the
limitation of a segmentation mapping circuit that determines the
at least one segment based on a position of a user input device
in the input segmented image by Marimont into that of Yair-
Goldberg combined invention. By doing so, the system would
enhance by permitting user interaction with the structures in an
origional image through image structure mapping.

As per claims 5(system) and 20(method), Yair-Goldberg disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Yair-Goldberg, however, do not disclose the limitation of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device;

Marimont discloses the limitation of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device as the technique of the method comprises receiving an image interaction signal from the input circuitry indicating an image interaction request from a user to modify an image structure map data structure, referred to as in an image structure map, that spatial indexes a displayed origional image. The displayed origional image represents an origional image data structure, referred to as an origional image, having image locations therein specified according to a first coordinate system (see column 5, lines 5-13);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device by Marimont into that of Yair-Goldberg combined invention. By doing so, the system would enhance by signaling the user to known where

is the location of the image structure map from which user will

interact with.

4.   Claims 7 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Yair (USPN: 5,787,194) in view of

Goldberg (USPN: 6,341,183) and further in view of Lee et al.

(USPN: 6,026,182) hereinafter Lee.

As per claims 7(system) and 17(method), Yair-Goldberg

disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Yair-Goldberg,

however, do not disclose the limitation of image processing tool

association determines the at least one of predefined

configuration association data, updatable configuration

association data or user configuration association data;

Lee discloses the limitation of predefined configuration

association data as the technique of precomression extrapolation

method for extrapolating image features of arbitary configuration

to a predefined configuration (see column 22, lines 47-48);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in

the art at the time the invention was made to include the

limitation of predefined configuration association data by

Marimont into that of Goldberg image processing tool and further

into that of Yair-Goldberg combined invention. By doing so, the

system would enhance by providing predefined configuration tool
which available to image processing toolbox to end user.

As per claim 18, due to the similarity of this claim to that
of claim 17, this claim is therefore rejected for the same reason
applied to claim 17.

5.   Claims 8 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
unpatentable over Yair (USPN: 5,787,194) in view of Goldberg
(USPN: 6,341,183) and further in view of Mahoney (USPN:
6,009,196).

As per claims 8(system) and 19(method), Yair-Goldberg
disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Yair-Goldberg,
however, do not disclose the limitation of segmentation
classifier corresponds to <u>at least one</u> of a photographic region,
a half-tone region, a text region, a line art region, a black and
white region or a color region;

Mahoney discloses the missing limitation of a text region as
the technique of analyzing image data, and more particular to the
analysis of image data representing images containing text to
classify the types of non-running text regions therein without
the need for predefining structure within the image. The
invention first employs the characteristics of running text

regions to distinguish them from non-running text regions in a page image (see column 1, lines 22-29);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of a text region (running text region and non-running text region) by Mahoney into that of Yair-Goldberg combined invention. By doing so, the system would enhance by providing more enhanced classifier tools to end user.

6.   Applicant's argument filed on 14 March 2002 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

On pages 2-4, with respect to claims 1, 10, and 12; Applicant argues that ※ Yair does not disclose what is recited in claim 1 of ※ a system that assembles a dedicated user interface that allows an input segmented image to be manipulated※. Examiner, however do not agree to this argument because this is taught by Yair as the technique of segmenting an input image into image portions each containing a single character, the apparatus comprising identification logic for identifying connected components in the input image; classification logic for determining into which of a number of predefined classes a connected component falls (see column 2, lines 8-14). And on last paragraph of page 2, Aplicant argue that ※ Yair does not teach a segmentation classification association circuit that associates a

segmentation classifier and at least one segment of an input

segmented image...※. Examiner, however, do not agree to this

argument because: the limitation of a segmentation classification

association circuit that associates a segmentation classifier and

at least one segment of the input segmented image is taught by

Yair as the technique of provides image processing apparatus for

segmenting an input image into image portions each containing a

single character, the apparatus comprising identification logic

for identifying connected components in the input image;

classification logic for determining into which of a number of

predefined classes a connected component falls (see column 2,

lines 8-14).

On the second and third paragraphs of page 3, Applicant

argue that ※ Goldberg fail to provide an image processing tool

association circuit that determines one image processing tool

corresponding to any segmentation classifier※ and ※fail to

provide any motivation to combine these two disparate

reference.※. Examiner, however, do not agree to these arguments

because: Goldberg discloses the limitation of an image processing

tool association circuit that determines at least one image

processing tool as the technique of an event-driven <u>graphical</u>

<u>user interface (GUI)-based image acquisition interface for the</u>

<u>interactive data language programming environment developed by</u>

<u>Research Systems, Inc.</u> (see column 2, lines 21-25) which include

Analysis Toobbox. Advantageously, a toolbox of various analytical tools can be incorporated into the GUI-based image acquisition interface (see column 8, lines 25-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of an image processing tool association circuit that determines at least one image processing tool by Goldberg into that of Yair's segment classifier invention. By doing so, the system would enhance by providing a tool box of various analytical tools for images acquired during the alignment of image acquisition analysis. Claim 1 herein remain rejected for the reason as set forth above.

On the last paragraph of page 4 to the first paragraph of page 5, Applicant argue that ☒neither Yair nor Golgberg, alone or in combination, disclose these features of claims 10 or 12 for the reasons stated above regarding the corresponding subject matter of claim 1.☒ These two claims 10 and 12 are remain rejected due to the same reasons applied to claim 1.

On the second and third paragraphs of page 5, with resepct to claims 2, 11, and 13; Applicant argues that ☒ claim 2 recites the additional feature of a user interface assembly circuit that assembles at least one selectable inteface widget into at least one user inteface based on the at least one image processing tool

corresponding to the segmatation classifier.⬚. Examiner, however,
do not agree to this argument because Goldberg discloses the
limitation of a user interface assembly circuit that assemble at
least one selectable interface widget into at least one user
interface based on the at least one image processing tool as the
technique of an event-driven graphical user interface (GUI)-based
image acquisition interface for the interactive data language
programming environment developed byResearch Systems, Inc. (See
column 2, lines 21-25) which include Analysis Toobbox.
Advantageously, a toolbox of various analytical tools can be
incorporated into the GUI-based image acquisition interface (see
column 8, lines 25-28) wherein the GUI interface program of the
presentation provides the following features: pulldown menu,
commonly used hardware binning options 14 are available, the
available detector speeds 16 are available from a pulldown menu
(see column 4, lines 22-31) and in order to switch quickly from
one set of parameters to another, the user pushes only one button
28 (see column 4, lines 50-52);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in
the art at the time the invention was made to include the
limitation of a user interface assembly circuit that assemble at
least one selectable interface widget into at least one user
interface based on the at least one image processing tool by
Goldberg into that of Yair's segment classifier invention. By

doing so, the system would enhance by providing better processing tools in GUI-based interface to end users.

These claims 2, 11, and 13 are therefore remain rejected for the reason as set forth above.

On the fourth paragraph of page 5, with respect to claims 6 and 16, Applicant argues that ※Neither Yair nor Goldberg discloses the additional feature in these claims.※. Examiner, however, do not agree to this argument because the limitation of segmentation selection circuit that selects the at least one segment is taught by Yair as the technique of identifying connected components in the input image; classifying the connected components by determining into which of a number of predefined classes a connected components falls, at least one of said classes indicating that the connected component is most likely to be single character; and iteratively merging and slitting the connected components and reclassifying the resulting slit and/or merged connected components until an image segmentation is achieved which meets a predefined criterion (see column 3, lines 42-50). These claims are therefore rejected for the reason as set forth aboved.

On the first paragraph of page 6, Applicant argues that ※ Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 9-14, 16 and 21 as

unpatentable over the combination of Yair and Goldberg is

respectfully solicited�※. Examiner, however, do not argree to this

argument. These claims 1-3, 6, 9-14, 16 and 21 are remain

rejected for the reason as set forth above.

On pages 6-7, with respect to claims 4-5, 15 and 20;

Aplicant argues that ☒Marimont does not remedy the defciencies in

the Yair-Goldberg reference combination outline above. Claims

4,5, 15 and 20 are patentable over the asserted combination...The

office Action fails to present any motivation to make the

asserted combination... Moreover, there is a disincentive to

combine Marimont with the two other references because the Yair

image already segmented. There is no showing why one would want

to segment an already segmented image when none of the references

teach this feature....Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4,5,

15 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. as unpatentable over the commbination

of Yair, Goldberg and Marimont is respectfully solocited.☒.

Examiner, however do not agree to these argument because:

1. As per claims 4(system) and 15(method), Yair-Goldberg do

not disclose <u>the limitation of a segmentation mapping circuit</u>

<u>that determines the at least one segment based on a position of a</u>

<u>user input device in the input segmented image</u>;

Marimont discloses the limitation of a segmentation mapping

circuit that determines the at least one segment based on a

position of a user input device in the input segmented image as the technique of the discovery of a data structure representation of an image called an image structure map (ISM) that accurately and explicitly represents the geometric and topological properties of an image and allows for efficient and accurate spatial indexing of regions of an image (see column 3, lines 9-14). Marimont's image structure map (ISM) invention further discloses ⌗input signal circuitry⌗ is circuitry for providing input signals to the processor from an input signal source. The input signal source may be directed by a human user or by an automatic operation under control of a processor. ⌗User input circuitry⌗ is circuitry for providing signals based on action of a user. User input circuitry can receive signals from one or more ⌗user input devices⌗ that provide signals based on actions of a user, such as a keyboard, a mouse, or stylus device (see column 9, lines 53-61)..For example, a signal from a user input device indicates a position of an image if the signal includes data from which the position can be uniquely identified (see column 10, lines 4-6);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of a segmentation mapping circuit that determines the at least one segment based on a position of a user input device in the input segmented image by Marimont into that of Yair-

Goldberg combined invention. <u>By doing so, the system would enhance by permitting user interaction with the structures in an origional image through image structure mapping</u> (**motivation**).

As per claims 5(system) and 20(method), Yair-Goldberg do not disclose the limitation <u>of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device</u>;

Marimont discloses the limitation of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device as the technique of the method comprises receiving an image interaction signal from the input circuitry <u>indicating</u> an image interaction request from a user to modify an image structure map data structure, referred to as in an image structure map, that spatial indexes a displayed origional image. The displayed origional image represents an origional image data structure, referred to as an origional image, having image locations therein specified according to a first coordinate system (see column 5, lines 5-13);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one segment based on the position of a user input device by Marimont into that of Yair-Goldberg combined invention. <u>By doing</u>

so, the system would enhance by signaling the user to known where
is the location of the image structure map from which user will
interact with (motivation).

2.   As per claims 4-5, 15, and 20; the present application
indicated that ▒the system further comprising of a segmentation
mapping circuit that determines the at least one segment based on
a position of a user input device in the input segmented image
and of the segment mapping circuit highlights the at least one
segment based on the position of a user input device ▒ not ▒to
segment an already segmented image▒.

These claims 4-5, 15, and 20 are therefore remain rejected
for the reasons as set forth above.

On the last paragraph of page 7 to the first paragraph of
page 9, with respect to claims 7, 17, and 18; Applicant argues
that ▒Claims 7, 17 and 18 are patentable over Yair and Goldberg
for the reasons stated above regarding claims 1 and 12. Morever,
Lee does not supply the deficiencies outlined above in Yair and
Goldberg..The Office Action fails to provide any proper incentive
to modify the Yair-Goldberg combination in view of
Lee....Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7, 17 and 18 under
35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Yair,
Goldberg and Lee is respectfully solicited▒.

Examiner do not agree to thhese argument because:

As per claims 7(system) and 17(method), Yair-Goldberg disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Yair-Goldberg <u>do not disclose the limitation of image processing tool association determines the at least one of predefined configuration association data, updatable configuration association data or user configuration association data</u>;

Lee discloses <u>the limitation of predefined configuration association data as the technique of precomression extrapolation method for extrapolating image features of arbitary configuration to a predefined configuration (see column 22, lines 47-48)</u>;

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of predefined configuration association data by Marimont into that of Goldberg image processing tool and further into that of Yair-Goldberg combined invention. <u>By doing so, the system would enhance by providing predefined configuration tool which available to image processing toolbox to end user</u>.

As per claim 18, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 17, this claim is therefore rejected for the same reason applied to claim 17.

These claims 7, 17 and 18 are remain rejected for the reasons as set forth above.

Finally, on the second paragraph of page 9 to the second paragraph of page 10, with respect to claims 8 and 19, Applicant argues that ※ Claims 8 and 19 are patentable over Yair and Goldberg for the reason atated above regarding to claims 1 and 12. Additionally, Mahoney does not cure the defects in the Yair-Goldberg combination. Thus, for the reasons above, claims 8 and 19 patentably define over Yair, Goldberg and Mahoney...In fact, the Office Action gives no reason to combine the references...The Office Action fails to demontrate that the combining these references is feasible and fails to demonstrate that combining these references would be desirable...Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 8 and 19 as unpatentable over the combination of Yair, Goldberg and Mahoney is respectfully solicited.※. Examiner, however, do not agree to these argument because:

As per claims 8(system) and 19(method), Yair-Goldberg do not disclose the limitation of segmentation classifier corresponds to <u>at least one</u> of a photographic region, a half-tone region, a text region, a line art region, a black and white region or a color region;

Mahoney discloses the missing limitation of a text region as the technique of analyzing image data, and more particular to the analysis of image data representing images containing text to classify the types of non-running text regions therein without

the need for predefining structure within the image. The invention first employs the characteristics of running text regions to distinguish them from non-running text regions in a page image (see column 1, lines 22-29);

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include the limitation of a text region (running text region and non-running text region) by Mahoney into that of Yair-Goldberg combined segmentation classifier invention. By doing so, the system would be enhanced by providing more tools to end user wherein layout analysis and logical structure analysis can be applied to image classifier analysis.

These claims 8 and 9 are therefore remain rejected for the reason as set forth above.

Conclusion

7.   Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP @ 707.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expired THREE (3) months, ZERO days from the date of this letter. Failure to respond within the

period for response will cause the application to be abandoned.
35 U.S.C. 133.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier
communications from the examiner should be directed to Cuong T.
Thai whose telephone number is 703-308-7234. The examiner can
normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of
this application should be directed to the Group receptionist
whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051 (for formal communications intended

for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-6606 (for informal or draft

communications, please label "PROPOSED" or

"DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal

Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth

Floor (Receptionist).

Cuong T. Thai

May 31, 2002

RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173